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SITUATION INFORMATION REPORT

Despite its serious financial problems, RAMPARTS magazine has managed to publish an April issue. Back to a monthly publishing schedule, it reputedly is working on a piece for the May issue that explains how "the U. S. is getting a trouncing in Vietnam while it claims to be winning."

Rennie DAVIS and Lee WEINER, two of the eight indicted leaders of the Democratic National Convention demonstrations, have pledged to seek to escalate the protests "in the streets and in the communities" against the war in Vietnam, racism, and police repression. DAVIS said, "We will begin our defense on April 5 in Chicago with a massive demonstration against the war in Vietnam. Our first response to these official acts of repression will be to dramatically renew our demand made at the DNC to bring the troops home now."

Jerry RUBIN, Yippie leader and all-around nuisance, spoke at Beloit College in Wisconsin on 17 March. He urged his 700 listeners to become revolutionaries and praised the recent supreme court decision which seems to allow defendants to see transcripts of conversations picked up by listening devices. It is doubtful that the Russian Embassy would appreciate his advice to the audience to flood that Embassy with calls on any topics so that if they were involved in a federal case it would be dismissed because the Government would not reveal wire tapping of the Russian Embassy. 7-31-20908

SCLC is circulating petitions to gather "millions" of signatures demanding that January 15, the birthday of Martin Luther KING, Jr., be declared an annual national holiday. 1-31-23681

During the past week two student conferences of significance were held in the United States. One at Philadelphia, billed as a student power conference, was attended by 450 persons representing

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80 colleges and universities in 14 countries. The only point of international student solidarity was what the conferees termed the "incompetence of existing institutions to provide change." Unity smashed over tactics. As usual the revolutionaries, some of them veterans of revolt in France and Mexico argued in lofty "smash the state" rhetoric, declaring that students were about to "detonate" a world-wide revolution of the "oppressed working class." The revolutionaries pointed out that in the U. S. the problem is that the working class and many students cannot seem to realize how oppressed they really are.

A more moderate and realistic tactical approach was expressed by the former head of "Students for McCarthy." This spokesman countered the radicals by explaining to the gathering that it is fairly difficult to tell a worker earning $9,000 a year that he's all that oppressed. The struggle of the working class seems to be to obtain a second car and pay off the mortgage.

The former McCarthyite argued for a broad-based movement for change, radical in ideology but conservative in style; one that would appeal more to middle-class Americans and avoid screaming in their face. The immediate goals would be ending the Vietnam War and stopping the missile defense system.

Rennie DAVIS, prominent New Left and peace protester and one of eight recently indicted demonstration leaders of the Chicago riots of last August also addressed the Philadelphia gathering. DAVIS said that the Movement's current problem was in formulating an ideology for revolution in a "post-scarcity economy" and the concept of "participatory democracy" is now out of style.

While the student power conference was struggling for its identity in Philadelphia, 1800 miles away in Austin, Texas, the SDS was holding its National Committee meeting attended by 1,000 SDSers from all over the U. S. The meeting had been first planned for the University of Texas proper then moved to Albuquerque then back again to Austin at the Catholic student center which is not affiliated with the University.

In many aspects the March conference was similar to SDS conferences in the recent past. There are emerging, however, symptoms of dissent among the dissenters. The present national leadership headed by Michael KLONSKY is pursuing a "Marxist-Leninist revolutionary Movement" line. This purely communist philosophy is relatively new to SDS. Marxist terms such as "imperialism," "class oppression,"

and "wars of liberation" were used by a number of the Austin delegates in argumentation.

The polarization resulted then from the ultra left (anti-revolutionary) assuming a Progressive Labor Party (Maoist) posture and the New Left (called "the Right" within SDS circles) continuing the theme for individuality and a radical life style. The New Left within SDS tends to feel that Lenin, Mao, and Che in their time and area conducted successful revolutions therefore they were good but they must be applied to the American problems. Many of the SDS New Leftists are also pacifists and although they intellectually accept the need for a revolution they will not accept violence as a means.

The ultra left ideologists who promote a "worker-student" alliance do not go along with the radical life style of the New Left. They wear their hair short, their clothes are "straight" and they refuse to use drugs (a resolution by the ultra left faction to condemn the use of drugs was defeated at the Austin conference).

The battle between these two factions has come several times to fist fights in local campus SDS meetings and at this conference in Austin. The New Left spread rumors at Austin that they would withdraw if their resolutions were defeated by the worker-student alliance faction. The New Left faction won on all the issues voted on at the conference.

The SDS prize continues to be fair game for take over by any organized communist group on the American scene with the power, prestige, and cunning to do so. Last December a near take over was staged by the Young Socialist Alliance (youth group of the SWP) and now PLP efforts seem to have been narrowly averted. It can be predicted that such efforts will continue until some one succeeds. Then SDS will split and their influence on the American campus can be expected to diminish.

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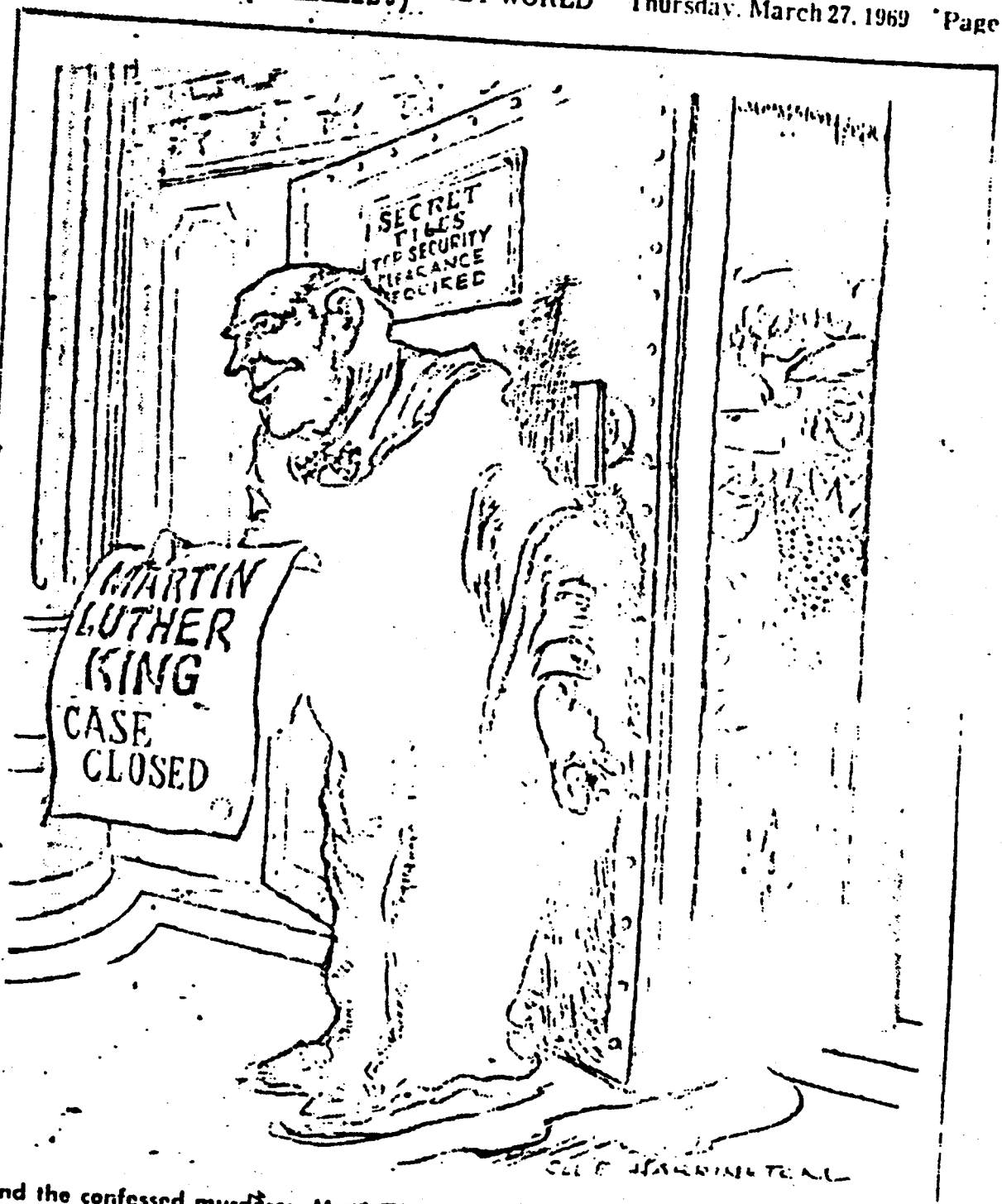
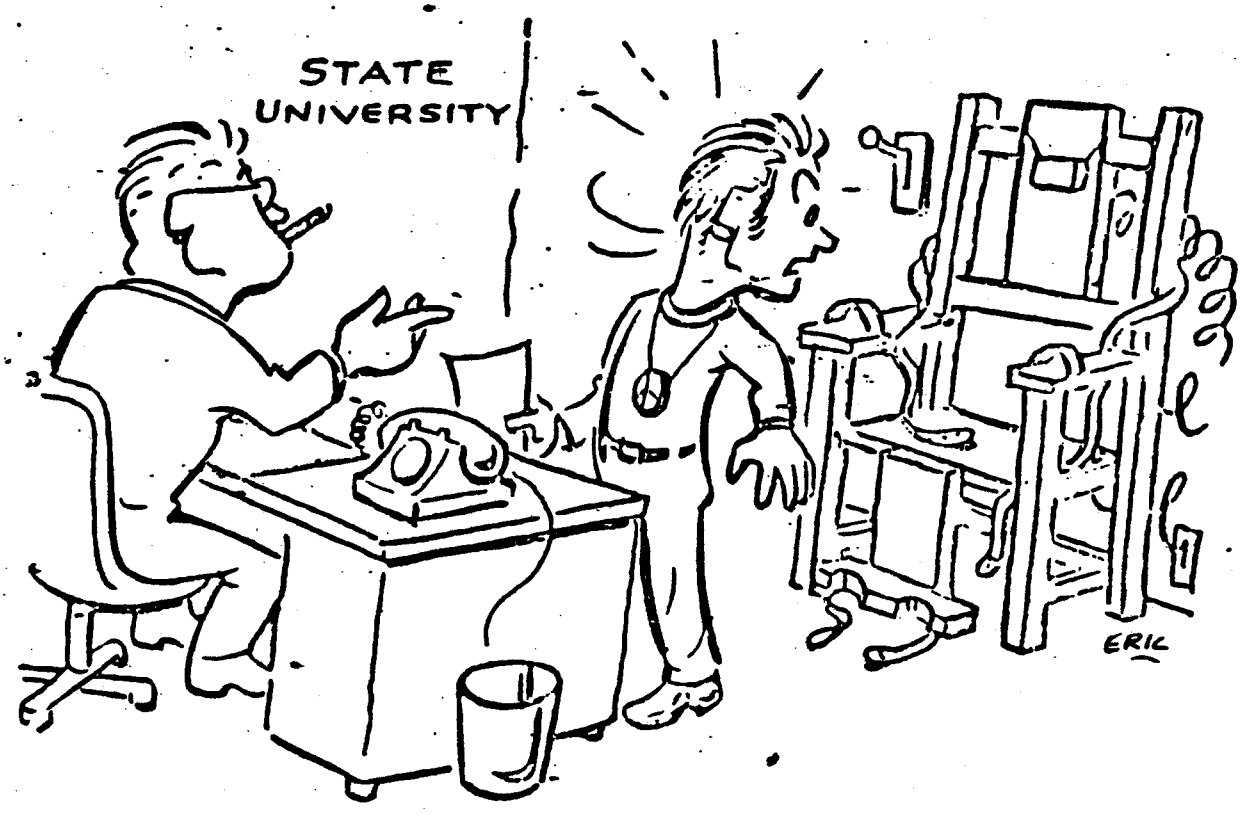


"And the confessed murderer, Mr. James Earl Ray, shall retain the right to publish his life story for $1,000,000— plus screen rights, of course — upon his eventual release!"



"Sit down and we'll have a little chat about your student grievances!"

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CALENDAR OF TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

The following items are either reported for the first time or contain additions or changes to activities which were noted in our regular report of last week or in that disseminated on Wednesday with special reference to the Washington, D. C., area. Because of the great number of items included in those reports, they are not repeated herein and in most part represented events or information in addition to the following.

There will be few cities of significant size in the U. S. that will not be the scene Easter weekend of some sort of service or demonstration with either an anti-war/pacifist or a civil rights/racial theme or both. Fortunately in many cases the action will involve primarily a commemorative tribute to Martin Luther KING, Jr., and will be religious in nature and be in conjunction with other Easter services. Most black and many white organizations and individuals will take some note of the first anniversary of his assassination, 4 April, Good Friday. While it is presumed that these memorials are intended to be respectful and nonviolent in character it must be recognized that hostilities abound and tensions are high in many areas. Following KING's assassination a year ago, the nation was subjected to the most violent racial disturbances in its history. The death of the Negro leader was the reason-excuse-alibi (often without real foundation) given as justification for the actions of rampaging mobs. Some of the more militant, the criminal, and the young hoodlum types may take advantage of this anniversary period to attempt to repeat last year's disorders.

Numerous reports have been received concerning rumors of the possibility of violence occurring in connection with the demonstrations scheduled in commemoration of the death of KING. Places mentioned in these rumors include: Chicago; Kansas City; St. Louis; York, Pennsylvania; Washington, D. C.; and the New Castle County Correctional Institution in Greenbank, Delaware. While rumors probably have little or no basis in fact, the number frequently reflects the degree of tension present and they are in themselves suggestive psychological prods and also tend to increase the possibility for spontaneous disruption.

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While the anti-war/pacifist groups (many of whom within include radical left membership) have pointed their activities primarily toward protest and demonstration within their main sphere of interest, they have not lost sight of the opportunity to involve civil rights/racially-oriented persons and groups by joint or separate actions commemorating KING or making some other racially related point. While their hope and intention is to involve large numbers in order to be extremely noticeable, and to induce the utmost in publicity, it would not seem that serious destruction or disorder is not their desire nor do they represent a major threat. It will be interesting to see whether their actions receive substantial support or whether they fall far short of projected goals of massive participation, etc. Except for dedicated activists - the repeaters - it is deemed likely that the anti-war group activities will fall far short of inducing great numbers of supporters to deviate from their usual Easter-time pursuits.

Twelve peace groups have planned demonstrations against the Vietnam War in forty-two cities during this period according to Stewart MEACHAM, peace secretary of the American Friends Service Committee. The protests are aimed at the "passive attitude" of the Nixon administration toward peace. Target cities include: Akron, Atlanta, Baltimore, Buffalo, Chicago, Denver, Honolulu, Little Rock, Louisville, Madison, Minneapolis, Philadelphia, Richmond, Washington, D. C., and San Juan, Puerto Rico.

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WASHINGTON, D. C.

No prediction as to whether the Washington area will or will not be subjected to substantial disorder can be made with any great degree of assurance. The Washington City Government and business leaders have met the extravagant demands of militants with a moderate compromise. Whether this, or any other concession, would be sufficient to eliminate all or most of the threat is debatable. Friday will not be an official holiday for government workers but liberal leave policies will be in effect. A community-wide tribute is being planned beginning with a televised ceremony on the steps of the District Building at 9 a.m. The Mayor and other city leaders are expected to participate in a special religious observance scheduled for 10 a.m. at the Greater New Hope Baptist Church, 816 8th Street, N.W. Community religious leaders are outlining various avenues for observances "by each in his own way." Business leaders do not suggest store closings but urge employers to permit special observances of the day by their workers. The City Council and Mayor Washington issued a proclamation designating the day "a day of Memoriam" for Dr. KING.

It is obvious that these decisions leave it up to the individual businessman to decide whether he can afford to close or can afford to stay open - a difficult decision at best. A strong show of resistance to threat and intimidation by officials and a unified decision for business as usual might have deterred militants from pressuring further. However, many cracks have appeared in the dike. Reputedly, 90 percent of the city sanitation workers will stay home Friday. Aside from the official commemorative services, four widely spread rallies, organized primarily by Willie HARDY, head of the Metropolitan Community Aid Council, will be held. They are at DuPont Circle at Noon, at Meridian Hill at 2 p.m., at Lincoln Park at 3:30 p.m., and at the North East Park at 49th and Deane Avenue, N. E., at 5 p.m.

The predominantly white Center for Emergency Support and Jews for Urban Justice organizations said their members plan to gather at DuPont Circle and after the Noon rally will spread out along Connecticut Avenue asking merchants to close. If they refuse, picketing, and other unspecified action may occur, spokesmen said. Students, pushed on by Rev. Douglas MOORE, and his militant D. C. Statehood Committee failed Wednesday night, in their attempt to force the D. C.

School Board into declaring Thursday a school holiday in honor of KING. As Friday is a Holiday, the students will be free to react. Rumors have been spread around Georgia Avenue and upper 14th Street that people have been buying gasoline in five-gallon containers and stocking it up for 4 April in case it is needed for any businesses that don't close on that day in honor of Martin Luther KING, Jr.

April 4 — Boston, Massachusetts - Representatives of the BPP have agreed to furnish security at the April 4 memorial service for Martin Luther KING, Jr., but said they could not be responsible for the actions of individual BPP members, if whites are present.

April 4-6 — Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania - A "Stations of the Cross" protest march is scheduled for the period 4 to 6 April, exact date/time unknown, to be led by Father Donald W. McILVANE, a Roman Catholic Priest. The march will visit 14 sites in Pittsburgh to protest injustices. To date, the only known stop will be the Public Safety Building.

April 4 — Columbus, Ohio - A teach-in on "Commitment Against Racism" will be held in the Student Union at Ohio State University.

April 5 — Chicago - Rennie DAVIS has been added to the list of speakers at the rally following the march.

April 5 — Chicago - The University of Illinois Committee to End the War in Vietnam plans participation in the April 5 demonstrations.

April 4-6 — Chicago - The Nonviolent Action and Training Center pacifist group has been demonstrating since 30 March. On 4 April, a "religious procession" will be held in various locations in Chicago. Members will participate in the Student Mobilization Committee sponsored anti-war march on the 5th. On 6 April, a sunrise service will be held at the Jackson Park Point Nike Missile site.

April 4-6 — Chicago - Rumors have been circulating that the parts of Madison Street which were not burned in last year's post KING assassination disorders will be burned Easter weekend.

April 4 & 5 — Milwaukee, Wisconsin - At 1930 hours (CST), Albert Daniel KING, brother of Dr. Martin Luther KING, Jr., is scheduled to speak at Galilee Baptist Church. On 5 April, the KING march led by Father James E. GROPPI is estimated to have

a minimum support of 3,000 to 4,500.

April 5

Royal Oak, Michigan - An interfaith group (NFI) is planning to hold a one-mile memorial march, to begin at 1300 hours (EST) in honor of Dr. Martin L. KING, Jr.

April 4-6

FBI 24825

Seattle, Washington - A member of the University of Washington SDS reportedly has stated that consideration is being given to damaging military and selective service facilities during this period.

April 3-6

AUCN 7042

Portland, Oregon - The Resistance has announced the following activities: on 3 April, personal confrontations with people in restaurants, buses and on the street; on 4 April, children's crusade from Portland State University to Salem, Oregon; on 5 April, mass rally at Pioneer Post Office; on 6 April, memorial for Martin Luther KING, Jr., at Bethel A.M.E. Church.

April 4

San Francisco, California - A Martin Luther KING Memorial march has been scheduled to begin at 1000 hours (PST), 4 April at Martin Luther KING Square, moving to City Hall Plaza by noon. The march is sponsored by the Martin Luther KING Holiday Committee. Scheduled speakers include Willie BROWN, J Hannibal WILLIAMS, The Rev. Cecil WILLIAMS, Carleton GOODL and Black Student Union Representatives.

April 4-6

FBI 24825

Denver, Colorado - The Resistance, an anti-draft group, is planning demonstrations, Easter weekend. A parade followed by a vigil at the Federal Office Building or at the Armed Forces Induction Center is scheduled for 4 April. On the 5th, a demonstration will be held at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal and on the 6th, a demonstration will be held during the Easter sunrise services at the Red Rocks amphitheater.

April 5 & 6

Little Rock, Arkansas - On 5 April, the Southern Student Organizing Committee (SSOC) will pass out leaflets and hold a silent peace vigil at Portable Park. On 6 April SSOC will hold a rally at the McArthur Park Ball Field between 1000-1300 hours (CST).

April 4

Prattville, Alabama - A group of local Negroes have applied for a permit to conduct a march on 4 April, beginning at a meeting hall on Chestnut Street and ending at the City Hall. Allegedly half way through the march part of the delegation will halt and only a portion of the marchers will proceed to the City Hall, for the purpose of presenting a list of grievances (NFI) to the Mayor

of Prattville. The marchers will then rejoin and march back to the meeting hall. The entire march will extend over an area of 10 to 12 city blocks. Known organizers of the march are: Dan HOUSER, militant Negro male and local civil rights leader: and Sally Mae HADNOT, Negro female and local civil rights leader. No-violence is expected.

April 4 — Alabama - Abernathy and Coretta King will lead "a massive black belt protest march along with a Poor People's Mule Train Caravan" in Selma, Alabama, Friday morning. After moving five miles, then participants will board buses and cars for Montgomery, where they will hold a "Soul Force Brotherhood Freedom Festival" Friday night.

April 5 — Montgomery, Alabama - The SCLC - "Soul Force" ceremonies will allegedly include nationally known movie stars. April 5 has been designated "The Great Day."

Alch 9041

April 4 — Nashville, Tennessee - A march in tribute to Dr. Martin Luther KING, Jr., will be sponsored by the Nashville NAACP Youth Council. The march will begin at Hadley Park and move to the State Capitol Building, where a memorial service will be held. Another memorial service is scheduled at the Fisk University Athletic Stadium at 0800 hours (CST), 4 April.

April 6 — Gainesville, Florida - Southern Student Organizing Committee is sponsoring an anti-war protest march. The demonstrators plan to erect a peace monument, containing the names of individuals killed in Vietnam, in front of the federal building in the hope that the Government will remove the monument, thereby gaining public support for the demonstrators.

157-26103

April 4 — Newport News, Virginia - A memorial march commemorating the late Dr. Martin Luther KING, Jr., will be held by the local NAACP and Clergy. An estimated 500 to 1000 persons are expected to participate. A permit for the march has been issued by the city, and local authorities anticipate no incidents.

April 8 — University of Maryland - The University of Maryland SGA Legislature approved a motion calling for dismissal of classes from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in connection with services commemorating Martin Luther KING, Jr.

April 10

Cambridge, Massachusetts - A demonstration will be staged a
M.I.T. to protest the presence of former special assistant to
the President for National Security Affairs, Walt ROSTOW, w
is scheduled to speak at the Center for Internal Affairs.

April 12

Norman, Oklahoma (University of Oklahoma) - SDS will spons
a demonstration at the University of Oklahoma to protest the
Vietnam War. This demonstration is in conjunction with other
demonstrations being sponsored by SDS on this date.

SOURCE: Government and news media.

RELIABILITY: Probably true.